approved by Parliament and issued by Government on 28-9-1988 ; and

(d) if so, what are the details thereof ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI ANIL SHASTRI) : (a) Regional Rural Banks (Appointment and Promotion of Officers and other Employees) Rules, 1988 made by the Government on the 28th September, 1988, in exercise of the powers conferred on it by Section 29 of the Regional Rural Banks Act, 1976 (21 of 1976), read with Section 17 thereof, are effective from the same date.

(b) Information is being collected and to the extent possible, will be laid on the Table of the House.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

Kerala High Court's judgement about promotional aspects for Regional Rural Bank staff

1839. SHRI SAMAR MUKHERJEE : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are aware that the Kerala High Court has given its judgement to ensure promotion under 'Non-selection Rule' for Regional Rural Bank staff;

(b) if so, whether Government have amended the Promotion Rule accordingly ; and

(c) if not, what are the reasons therefor ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI ANIL SHASTRI) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) The Regional Rural Banks (Appointment and Promotion of Officers and other employees) Rules, 1988 were made on the 28th September, 1988. Government has received proposals for amendment of certain provisions of these rules. The Kerala High Court judgement relating to promotions of Regional Rural Bank staff will be duly taken into consideration along with the other proposals at the appropriate time.

Explosion in the furnace of Bhilai Steel Plant

1840. SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA : Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state :

(a) whether there was an explosion in a blast furnace of the Bhilai Steel Plant and hot liquid metal spewed out of the blast furnace in large quantities ;

(b) if so, the details thereof ;

(c) the total loss suffered and the cause of the explosion ;

(d) the number of workers injured and died ;

(e) whether any financial assistance has been given to those injured and to the next of kin of those died ; and

(f) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINES WITH ADDITIONAL CHARGE OF THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI DINESH GOSWAMI) : (a) and (b) On August 4, 1990, while Blast Furnace No. 7 was being opened for tapping, it was observed that metal was oozing out between upper hearth bottom cooler No. 4 and coolers No. 3 and 4. This led to the hearth breakout at Blast Furnace No. 7 and spillage of hot metal.

(c) There was a spillage of about 50 tonnes of metal and some quantity of slag. The total value of the